



Secretary Stephanie Pollack's Report to the MassDOT Board

November 18, 2019



In Memory of Lieutenant Jason Menard



In Loving Memory Of
**LIEUTENANT
JASON MENARD**

APRIL 4, 1980 - NOVEMBER 13, 2019



MENARD CHILDREN'S FUND

Professional Fire Fighters of Massachusetts

PFFMFoundation.org

or make payable to PFFM Foundation, C/O MENARD CHILDREN'S FUND
mail to Worcester Fire Department Credit Union, 34 Glennie St, Worcester, MA 01605.

World Day of Remembrance Vigil



MHS Refunding Recap

- Bonds were originally issued by the Turnpike Authority in 1997 and advance refunded in 2010. We had a one-time historic opportunity to current-refund the original bonds at near historically low interest rates for significant savings.
- Refunded approximately \$830 million in MHS Bonds
- Bonds were priced on October 2nd and closed on October 23rd
- **Net Savings of \$182.3 million**
 - Higher than original estimate (June) of \$161 million
- Savings from this transaction (approximately \$14 million annually) can further support additional capital needs for the MHS and Allston project.
- This refunding does not impact/change/amend toll rates (determined by the Board) or toll locations (restricted by statute).

IRAP Grants: Applications and Awards

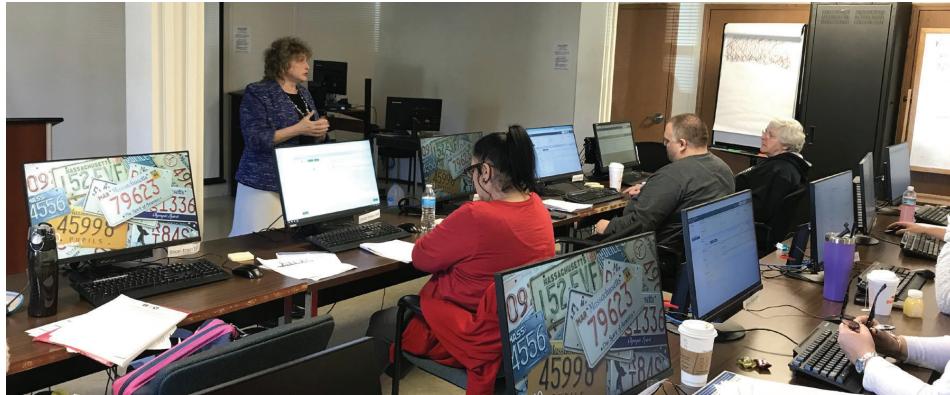
Industrial Rail Access Program (IRAP) is a public/private partnership program

Funds to help applicants invest in freight rail infrastructure improvement projects that:

- help get trucks off the road
- stimulate economic development
- grow Massachusetts corporations
- support/create manufacturing jobs through
 - increased efficiency, production capacity
 - improved distribution logistics

FY20 Grant Round

- 20 applications received
- 9 awards made:
 - 3 to railroads
 - 6 to shippers/receivers
- \$2,756,722 total in awards
- Matched by \$3,302,913 in private funds



After months of training , planning, and implementing lessons learned, the RMV team launched the second phase of its technology upgrade (vehicle information)



Atlas 2 on November 12
- 1.4 billion vehicle-related documents successfully conveyed

Registry will report back to the board on this transition in future months, when more data on performance becomes available

Transportation Climate Initiative (TCI)

- Massachusetts (MassDOT, EEA, Governor's Office) joined 11 other states and the District of Columbia to discuss and further develop this emissions reduction program.
 - We anticipate a significant announcement in December
- Reminder: “Cap and invest” – and other mechanisms being considered to establish a price for transportation emissions.
- Under TCI “cap and invest” price of gas would go up or down in response to macroeconomic conditions.
 - Funding created under TCI would be invested to providing low and no carbon transportation options through the Commonwealth

Kelley Square Improvements

Worcester, MA

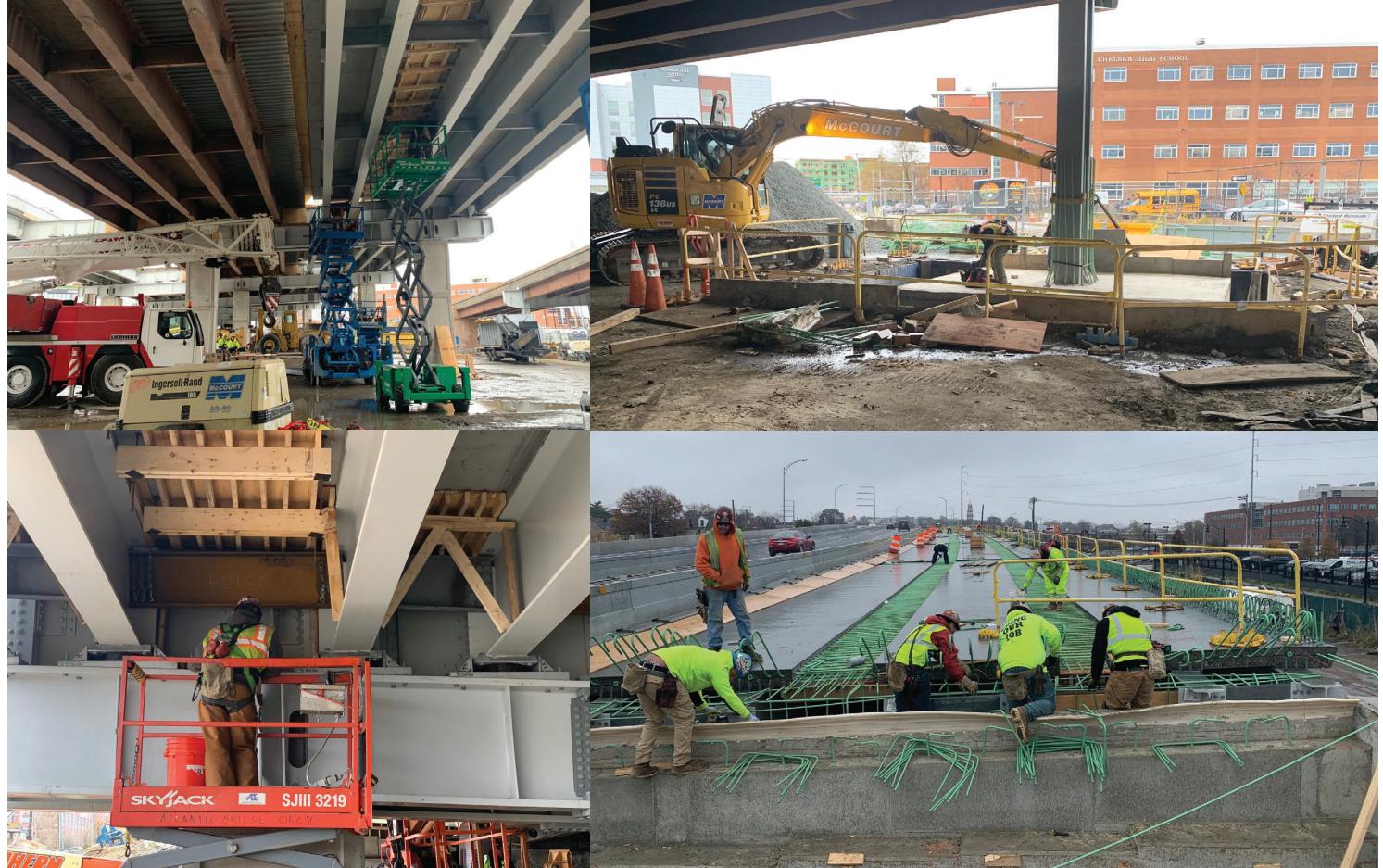
In partnership with City of Worcester, this \$14 million project re-imagines and rebuilds Kelley Square – an infamously complex and dangerous intersection

Project will address safety and operational deficiencies for all users - motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians, while also supporting the local businesses and residents who call Kelley Square their home



Route 1 Chelsea

Project Advancing



Thanksgiving Travel

- Massport/Logan Airport:
 - check with your airline for flight information
 - check massport.com/logan-airport for information on getting to and from
- MBTA.com for schedule information
- HOV lane on I-93 between Quincy-Boston has extended hours
- State offices closed Thanksgiving Day (Nov. 28) including the Registry
- MassDOT Highway Division is pausing non-emergency work zone activities during peak travel times.
- Real time travel info: call 511 or check mass511.com
- Drivers: Please drive sober, put cell phones away, and limit distractions

Marking MassDOT's 10th Anniversary



An opportunity for MassDOT managers and employees to learn more about how far we have come and where we are going as transportation need change